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JOURNAL

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

Tuesday - 27 July 1971

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1. [] Mr. Ward Thompson, Public Inquiries Division, Department of State, called concerning a letter from a constituent to Senator Alan Cranston (D., Calif.) which was forwarded to the Department for reply. The letter stated that CIA should be withdrawn from South Vietnam and seriously questioned the role of the Agency. Mr. Thompson stated that the Department could furnish no substantive reply to the letter. He wanted to forward the letter directly to us. I requested that he return the letter to Senator Cranston's office and if it was subsequently referred to CIA, we would prepare the reply. I thanked him for his call.

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2. [] Met with Representative William Bray (R., Ind.) who told me that he has been advised by the American Ambassador in Moscow that his request for travel visa to the Talas River area and the Kirghiz Republic has been denied. It was indicated that the Talas River area is not open to tourism. As a matter of personal interest Representative Bray asked if we knew of any reason for this area being closed.

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In passing Representative Bray mentioned that the House of Representatives may be expected to recess early in the afternoon of Friday, 6 August. He will be traveling to Korea with Speaker Albert and the Speaker wants to get away as early as possible in the afternoon.

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3. [] Met with Mr. Ralph Preston, House Appropriations Committee staff, and delivered to him four copies of George Carver's paper on Indochina that was requested by Chairman Mahon. In passing Mr. Preston mentioned that the Chairman will be going to Texas during the recess and that he himself will be traveling away from the city for at least part of the period.

I briefed Mr. Preston on the following items: Sudan; Soviet "J" vehicle, Y-class submarines, new missile silos; drug refineries in the triborder area; ChiCom Luta-class missile destroyer construction; Egyptian MIG-21 aircraft in Syria; and low-level military activity along the Suez.

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25X1 4. [] I met separately with Russ Blandford and Frank Slatinshek, House Armed Services Committee staff. Mr. Blandford asked if I would check to see if there was anything to the Philadelphia Bulletin Horst column of 25 July concerning CIA and the Pentagon papers. Mr. Blandford noted he didn't think that there was anything to it but he would appreciate our confirmation if such is the case.

In connection with the briefing indicated below, Mr. Slatinshek asked whether the present information on new missile silos in the Soviet Union is consistent with the briefings and forecasts given the Committee in January.

I briefed Messrs. Blandford and Slatinshek on the following items: Soviet tactical aircraft in the Chinese border area; ChiCom/Soviet border negotiations; ChiCom/Pakistani agreement; Soviet destroyer at Singapore; Sudan; Soviet "J" vehicle, Y-class submarines, new missile silos; drug refineries in the triborder area; ChiCom Luta-class missile destroyer construction; Egyptian MIG-21 aircraft in Syria; and low-level military activity along the Suez.

25X1 5. [] Met with Mr. James Wilson, House Science and Astronautics Committee staff, and briefed him on the Soviet "J" vehicle.

25X1 6. [] Met with Mr. Norman Cornish, Foreign Operations and Government Information Subcommittee staff, and briefed him orally on information available concerning [].
25X1A Mr. Cornish was most appreciative. He also told me about a meeting last week with Gregoriy Rapota, Press Attache, Soviet Embassy in Washington. Mr. Rapota was particularly interested in testimony before the Subcommittee concerning USIA activities and expenditure of funds in Vietnam and the views of the members about these activities. I suggested to Mr. Cornish that the detail of such a visit is of prime interest to the FBI and that it would be well if he call them. He said that he would.

25X1A On another subject, Mr. Cornish asked if the Agency could shed any light on a particular item which is included in a rather extensive testimony on foreign currency activities. An item has been identified in 1967 that transfers \$75,000 from an exchange facility set up by several governments in Laos to a Swiss bank. This transfer was to an account designated as []

This item was developed in questioning by Chairman Moorhead in testimony of 17 July 1971 by Mr. Roderic O'Connor, Assistant AID Administrator for East Asia. I told Mr. Cornish that I doubted if we could be of much assistance but I would relay the question.

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7. [] In meeting with Mr. Ralph Preston, House Appropriations Committee staff, today, he told me that the Radios will be covered in the continuing resolution which will be going before the House next week before the August recess. He foresees no problem in passage of the measure.

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8. [] In response to his request I provided Jack Ticer, of the Senate Armed Services Committee staff, with additional copies of the paper entitled "The World Opium Situation."

I queried Ticer about Committee action on the markup of the military procurement bill. He said the Committee would be meeting again on Thursday, but he doesn't expect the bill to be reported out until after the summer recess.

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10. [] [] called to alert us to the fact that the Joint Economic Committee has informally asked our economists for contributions to two studies which the Committee will be compiling. One is on the Soviet economy and the other on the economy of Communist China. A formal request is expected.

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11. [] Messrs. Houston, [] conferred by phone with Mr. Maurice Lanman, Assistant General Counsel (Fiscal Matters), OSD, concerning a request Lanman made to Mr. Houston for Agency views on S. 2254, a bill by Senator Case to amend the Foreign Assistance Act and the Military Procurement Act. Lanman indicated that State Department had contacted them to coordinate a response which the Department is making to Senator Fulbright on the bill. DOD foresees possible Agency problems with this bill and asked us for our views. We discussed the bill with Lanman and told him we would be in touch with him tomorrow with a more definitive position.

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12. [redacted] Delivered to the offices of Senators Mike Gravel (D., Alaska), Edward Kennedy (D., Mass), Hubert Humphrey (D., Minn), Clifford Case (R., N.J.), Edmund Muskie (D., Me), Mike Mansfield (D., Mont.), and William Proxmire (D, Wis.) [redacted] items in which their names were mentioned. 25X1

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14. [redacted] John Hays, in the office of Senator Herman E. Talmadge (D., Ga.), called to inquire about a Government certification of a trip of 30 Georgia businessmen to Red China as a business trip for income tax purposes. Hays had inquired of GAO and was informed that CIA would furnish the certification. We agreed that this was not so and he will check with the State Department and Department of Commerce as to any necessary Government certification.

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[redacted]
JOHN M. MAURY
Legislative Counsel

cc:
ER
O/DDCI

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[redacted]
Mr. Goodwin
Mr. Houston

DDI
DDS
DDS&T
EA/DDP
OPPB
Item 8 - [redacted]

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